

women and men for their valiant service to our country.●

IN HONOR OF JOSEPH A. MEZZO

● Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Mr. Joseph A. Mezzo of New Jersey and the 4th Regiment of the United States Marine Corps, whose gallant actions in 1937 prevented an already tumultuous conflict from destabilizing further. The 4th Marines were deployed near the Soochow Creek in China to diffuse tensions that emerged after Japanese forces penetrated Chinese boundaries. Further intensifying the situation, a Chinese officer killed two members of the Japanese military, creating a hostile climate that culminated in armed conflict. Amidst heavy gunfire from both Japanese and Chinese forces, Mr. Mezzo and the 4th Marine Regiment demonstrated tremendous fortitude and resolve as they assisted in the stabilizing of the Soochow Creek, halting what could have been a major international battle.

After all other American forces returned home, the 4th Marines remained in the Soochow Creek, accepting an even greater challenge of returning a Chinese rice barge that had been captured by the Japanese to its rightful owner. Mr. Mezzo and his fellow Marines executed this risky maneuver, thereby diffusing a situation which could have added fuel to an already volatile situation. The 4th Marine Regiment courageously exhibited the Marine Corps standard of Semper Fidelis, which saving the lives of many people.

Although Mr. Mezzo and his comrades acted with bravery and selflessness, their efforts, and the efforts of many gallant veterans, have gone virtually unrewarded and unappreciated. While their exploits may not be found in history books, the services with which these veterans have provided our country are invaluable. I would like to recognize Mr. Mezzo, the 4th Marine Regiment, and all veterans who have risked their lives for the welfare of our country. Their willingness to accept these dangerous missions is a testament to their senses of duty, honor and patriotism. For this, I salute our veterans to whom we own a debt of gratitude and our ceaseless appreciation, for they exemplify what it means to be American.●

VIRGINIA TECH'S CLASS OF 2000

● Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, yesterday, I inserted into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the speeches of two graduates from Virginia Tech University who addressed their class during its commencement ceremonies last month. During the commencement ceremony, at which I had the privilege of also speaking with the Class of 2000, I listened to the eloquent and inspiring speeches of three Virginia Tech students, Class President Lauren Esleek,

Graduate Student Representative Timothy Wayne Mays, and Class Treasurer Rush K. Middleton. Yesterday, I inserted Ms. Esleek's and Mr. Middleton's speeches into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. I have now obtained a copy of Mr. Mays' speech, and it is my pleasure to ask that a copy of his speech also be printed in the RECORD.

GRADUATION SPEECH BY TIMOTHY WAYNE MAYS

Good morning. I'd like to begin with a brief story that I recently read that illustrates the theme of my message today. A successful business executive and former University of Alabama football player was asked "what was the first thing coach Paul Bear Bryant said to you and the other scholarship athletes after arriving on campus." Surprisingly, at the first team meeting, Coach Bryant asked the group "Have you called your folks yet to thank them?" After hearing those words, the players looked confused—most had their mouths open. They looked at one another with disbelief. Apparently, not one of them had anticipated this question. These freshman athletes had been on campus less than 24 hours, but they already had their first lesson in team productivity. No one in the room that day had acknowledged having called home with a word of thanks. What was the essence of the lesson? Coach Bryant followed up his initial question with a second statement. "No one ever got to this level without the help of others. Call your folks. Thank them." [from *The Millionaire Mind* (Stanley, 2000)]

When I was asked to speak at today's graduation ceremony, I kind of struggled with what I wanted to talk about, but preparing this speech gave me the opportunity to reflect on how I got to this point in my life. And the main thing that stood out to me was the significant influence that certain individuals have had on my life. In some way or another, these people gave me a chance or an opportunity that I would not have had otherwise. Now some of these people are, of course, my parents and other family members who have given me a chance by raising me in a safe, loving, and spiritual environment. In the most challenging times of my life, their prayers and support have helped me stand strong, or sometimes, just make it through.

In a different way, some of the people who have most significantly influenced my life are friends, teachers, and even just acquaintances that have taken an interest in me for some reason or another. They have given me the guidance and motivation that I need to succeed. As a recent example, when I came to Virginia Tech, I wasn't sure what type of structural engineering work I wanted to do after graduation. Over the last four years, Dr. Tom Murray, in the Civil Engineering department here at Virginia Tech, has helped me find the specific type of work that I will enjoy. I will surely remember his help in the years to come when I wake up every morning happy to go to work. Also, it was Dr. Ray Plaut who took a personal interest in me during my college visit and brought me here to Virginia Tech. Everything that I have accomplished here at Virginia Tech would have been impossible without his help and guidance over the last four years. The truth of the matter is this: Had some of these people not entered my life, I definitely would not be here speaking today.

As graduates of this great university, we really do have so much for which to be proud. However, I challenge each of you to take the time to reflect on the individuals who have helped you get to this place in your life, and to personally thank them for taking an interest in you.

At this chapter in our life comes to an end, a new chapter begins, and one of the most exciting things to think about is the new people we will meet and the impact they will have on our lives. More importantly though, I hope that we can be influential people in others lives. By always recognizing the impact that other people have had on us, I believe that we can. Thank you very much and God bless.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

REPORT ON EXECUTIVE ORDER 12938—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM114

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

To the Congress of the United States:

Enclosed is a report to the Congress on Executive Order 12938, as required by section 204 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1703(c)) and section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1641(c)).

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.
THE WHITE HOUSE, June 14, 2000.

REPORT RELATIVE TO THE LAPSE OF THE EXPORT ADMINISTRATION ACT OF 1979—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 115

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

To the Congress of the United States:

As required by section 204 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1703(c)) and section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1641(c)), I transmit herewith a 6-month periodic report on the national emergency declared by Executive Order 12924 of August 19, 1994, to deal with the threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States caused by the lapse of the Export Administration Act of 1979.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.
THE WHITE HOUSE, June 14, 2000.